

THE THREE TRAVELLING-BAGS.

There were three of them, all of shining black—on the top of the pile of trunks, one on the ground, and one in the waiting hand—all going to Philadelphia, all waiting to be checked.

The first bag rang. The baggage-man bustled, tumbling from one pile of baggage to another, dropping chalk to trunks, checks to the passengers, and cursing to porters, in approved railway style.

"Mine—Philadelphia," cried a stout military-looking man with enormous whiskers and a red face, crowding forward as the baggage-man laid his hand on the travelling-bag.

"Won't you please give me a check for this one or not?" growled the proprietor of bag No. 3, a short, pork-marked fellow in a shabby overcoat.

"All right, gentlemen. Here you are," said the functionary, rapidly distributing the checks.

"Philadelphia, this?"

"Yes, sir—1,062, 1,740, 1,020. All right."

"All aboard!" shouted the conductor.

The train moved slowly out of the station.

The baggage-man meditatively watched as it sped away in the distance, and then, as if he thought suddenly struck him, shipped his trunk and exclaimed:

"Best if I don't believe."

"That I've gone and gave them three last fellows the wrong checks. The cursed little black fellows are all alike, and bothered me."

"Telegraph," said the switchman.

"Never mind," replied the baggage-man.

"They will find out when they get there."

They did.

The scene shifts to the Continental Hotel, Philadelphia. Front parlor upstairs. Occupants, the three gentlemen alluded to in the first and second paragraphs.

In accordance with the fastidiousness of the times, the twin had been made one in matrimony at 7:30 A. M., duly kissed and congratulated till 8:45, and deposited, bag and baggage, at the Continental at 11:30.

They were seated on the sofa, the black baggage-man standing behind the slender waist of the gray travelling dress, and the jetty moustache in equally affectionate proximity to the glossy curls.

"Are you tired, dearest?"

"No, love, not much. But you are, aren't you?"

"No, darling."

"Don't it seem funny?" said the lady.

"What, love?"

"That we should be married."

"Yes, darling."

"Won't they be glad to see us at home?"

"Of course they will."

"I'm sure I shall enjoy it so much. Shall we get there to-night?"

"Yes, love, in—"

"Up, rap, rap, at the door."

A hasty separation took place between the two, as the wife, opposite ends of the sofa, then, "Come in."

"An' ye please, sir, it's an M. P. is waiting to see ye."

"To see me—a policeman?"

"Yes, sir."

"There must be some mistake."

"No, sir; it's yourself, and he's waiting in the hall beyond."

"Well, I go to—no, tell him to come here."

"Scarry to disturb you, sir," said the M. P., with a large brass star on his breast, appearing with great alacrity at the waiter's summons. "I believe this is your black valise."

"Yes, that is ours, certainly. It is Julia's; the lady's things are in it."

"Suspicious circumstances about that valise, sir. Telegraph came this morning that a burglar, started on the 8:45 Philadelphia train, with a lot of silver spoons, and a large sum of money, was followed by a man in a blue coat, who followed it up here; took a peep inside. Sure enough, there were the spoons; marked T. B. too. Said it was yours. Shall have to take you in charge."

"Take me in charge? But I assure you, dear sir, there is some mistake—this is all a mistake."

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NATURE'S OWN REMEDY.

A VEGETABLE MEDICINE.

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For Liver Complaints.

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For Kidney Diseases.

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LARGE STOCK OF ELEGANT NEW FURNITURE AT AUCTION.

In consequence of being compelled to vacate my present store, and being unable to open at my new place until the 20th inst., I will sell, at No. 1414 Main street, on MONDAY, the 20th inst., the whole of my present stock of new furniture, embracing

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By J. Thompson Brown, Real Estate Agent and Auctioneer, 1113 Main street.

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